

# **CALIFORNIA CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMISSION**

## **MAY 2002 COMMISSION MEETING**

### **PITTSBURG, CA**

**May 16, 2002**

### **HIGHLIGHTS**

- Minutes from the April 18, 2002 Commission meeting were approved without revision. These minutes have been posted on the State Commission's website ([www.ccfc.ca.gov](http://www.ccfc.ca.gov)) for review.
- Advisory Committee on Diversity – The Commission appointed Karen Blinstrub to serve on the Advisory Committee on Diversity. Ms. Blinstrub is the Executive Director of Santa Clara County Children and Families Commission and also was the nominee of the California Children and Families Association.
- Rural and Small Population County Funding Allocation – The Commission approved funding in the amount of \$2,738,000 per year for two years for travel and administration costs for each of the 31 rural and small population counties, and \$800,000 for two years for eight county commissions to guarantee a minimum annual funding level of \$200,000. The Commission also approved, and made clear its expectation, that the State Commission and county commissions jointly pursue legislation to alter the funding formula in the Prop. 10 statute to have this money come from the 80 percent share of revenues allocated to county commissions.

In addition, the Commission approved \$1,625,000 per year for four years to expand the School Readiness Initiative to provide funding to all 58 county commissions.

- School Readiness Component of the Legislature’s Master Plan for Education – The State Commission endorsed in concept the School Readiness report after additional discussion (started last month). In addition, they noted that the draft Master Plan is now available at [www.sen.ca.gov/masterplan](http://www.sen.ca.gov/masterplan) for public input. During a meeting in the near future, the Commission will determine what additional steps it may wish to take to support or implement selected recommendations.
- Legislative Items – The Commission took formal positions on the following bills:
  - Assembly Bill 2954 (Simitian) - Child Care Facilities in Land Use/General Plans: Support
  - Senate Bill 1700 (Peace) - Tobacco Products Licensure: Support

Additionally, the Commission discussed possible revisions to the criteria staff uses to review and assign priority to legislation and budget proposals. Revisions will be made in an effort to capture and focus on the bills that relate to the Commission's School Readiness Initiative and its five focus areas, and to the recommendations of the School Readiness component of the Legislature's proposed Master Plan for Education. The revised criteria will be brought back to the Commission for action.

- Public Education Campaign Funding for Abandoned Newborns Law – The Commission discussed the possibility of contributing \$1 million to the Department of Social Services for a media and public education campaign to raise public awareness for the “Safe Arms for Newborns” law (Senator Brulte, SB 1368, 2000). The budget proposed by DSS would include \$1.5 million to cover media (Public Service Announcement placements, cable network, billboards, transit, radio time, and college newspapers); production of materials (using a campaign already developed by the State of New Jersey); printing; and training

materials and public relations. A funding request will be presented to the Commission for action in June.

- Implementation Plans for the Commission's Five Focus Areas – Based on input from State Commissioners, County Commissions and others, and to ensure adequate input from our partners in the design, there may be a need to adjust the timelines provided in draft form during the Commission's April meeting. In each focus area, staff will bring options for discussion to the Commission, gather additional input on recommended options, then provide specific funding proposals to the Commission for action.
- Informal Child Caregiver Support Project – The Commission advised staff to continue development of a funding proposal in the focus area of Informal Child Caregiver Support, beginning with the following potential activities identified as short-term or start-up:
  - Conduct focus groups with informal child caregivers.
  - Increase supply of the Kit for New Parents to make it available for informal caregivers.
  - Develop supplemental materials for an informal caregiver packet to include with the Kit for New Parents or give access through the 800 number and CBO programs.
  - Develop and release an RFF with incentive funds (with a local match) to County Commissions for demonstration sites.
  - Evaluation component for all funded strategies.

This issue will be brought back to the Commission this summer.

- Statewide Data Collection and Evaluation of Prop. 10 Funded Programs – SRI International, the group that will be providing research and evaluation services for the Commission, presented its evaluation plan.
- Development of a State Commission Research Panel – The Commission discussed options to establish a formal research agenda, provided direction about

the topics that may be included in any agenda, and directed staff to present options to establish an agenda at a future meeting.

- Parents' Guide Renewal – The Commission discussed a proposal to fund a second printing of the Parents' Guide, a key component of the Kit for New Parents. The cost for the proposal is \$1.5 million. The Commission will consider action on this item at the June Commission meeting.
- Consent Calendar for Commission Agendas – The Commission discussed utilizing a process for Commission meeting agendas to place certain action items on a “consent calendar” for a vote of approval. Public comment would still be taken if requested. The Commission will consider action on this item in June.